

January 31st, 1898.

To the Chairman and Members of the Astley Bridge
Urban District Council.

Howe

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report to your Board on the sanitary condition of your District during the past year.

From the Table A which I enclose, you will note that the total number of Deaths registered was 111 - 55 males and 56 females - giving a rate of 16.56 per 1,000 per annum on the estimated population of 6,700 - being a slight increase over last year.


The births numbered 183 - 92 males and 91 females - giving a rate of 27.31 per 1,000.

There were only two illegitimate births. The excess of Births over Deaths was 72. Of the deaths thirteen were registered under the age of one year, showing a rate of 71 per 1,000 births, and being a most satisfactory one. Twenty two occurred between 1 and 5 years; seven between 5 and 15; five between 15 and 25; thirty seven between 25 and 65; and twenty-seven were over 65 years, giving an average of 72 years.

The Synotic death rate is rather high owing to the prevalence of Measles in February and March - five deaths resulting. Scarlet Fever caused three deaths; Diphtheria two; Typhoid Fever two; and Whooping Cough two; total 14 - with a rate 2.08 on the population. Deaths from Chest affections were 19 - the rate being 2.83 per 1,000. Phthisis twelve, with a rate 1.79. "All other causes" of death numbered 55.

Four inquests were held - in which the verdicts were "Convulsions" in a child aged 2 hours; "Natural Causes" in a woman aged 40 years; "Unknown" in a man aged 47, and "Suicide" in a man aged 59 years.

Four deaths were "not Certified" - in three of which notes



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were received from the "Coroner" declining inquests. The supposed causes of death were "Natural causes" in a man aged 81 years; "Heart Disease" in a man aged 68 years; "Convulsions" in a child - in which no communication appears to have been made to the "Coroner"; and "Natural Causes" in a woman 60 years of age.

During the year I have had "Twenty" cases of Zymotic disease reported to me, sixteen being "Scarlet Fever" and four "Typhoid Fever." Some of the cases of "Scarlet Fever" were removed to the Fever Hospital - in cases where danger of its spreading existed. The cases of "Typhoid" treated at home. In none of the cases of "Typhoid" could any special cause be discovered.

From your Inspector's report, I observe that the usual observances as to night-soil refuse have been duly carried out. About 60 written and verbal notices of removal or abatement of nuisances have been issued - and duly carried out.

The slaughter houses have been under careful observation - being visited almost every day. Four carcasses of cows have been condemned and destroyed as unfit for food; and six others - to which attention has been directed - examined and certified as "fit for food" by your Inspectors.

The Butchers and Fish Shops have been under careful inspection - and refuse from them removed several times a week.

The Dairy and Cow sheds have been duly visited. Night soil has been removed and subjected to the usual treatment.

The Sewage Works have given results - which appear to have been satisfactory - almost to the extent required by the Inspector of the Rivers' Committee.

Near upon 100 houses have been erected in your District during the year.

I am, Your obedient servant,

Robert Settle, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

